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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Standing Committee on Poverty Alleviation
Third session
Geneva, 12 June 1995
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Provisional agenda and annotations to the provisional agenda

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

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2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

3. Analysis of the effects on the livelihood of the poor of elimination of trade barriers, increased competitiveness, trade flows, external shocks, diversification of exports, particularly of labour-intensive goods, and market access for such goods

4. Analysis of the effectiveness and impact of international development cooperation for poverty alleviation, including the identification of impediments, innovative measures and effective strategies for reaching the poor

5. Other business

6. Adoption of the report of the Standing Committee on its third session to the Trade and Development Board.

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II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1: Election of officers

1. In accordance with rule 18 of the rules of procedure of the main Committees of the Trade and Development Board, the Committee shall elect a Chairman, five Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur from among the representatives of its members. These officers shall constitute the Bureau of the Committee which, as specified in rule 19, shall consist of four members from Groups A and C combined, two members from Group B and one member of Group D.

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

2. The provisional agenda for the third session of the Standing Committee on Poverty Alleviation was approved by the Committee at the closing meeting of its second session (see annex II of TD/B/41(1)/11-TD/B/CN.2/11). As provided for in the calendar of meetings, the Standing Committee will have available five working days, from 12 to 16 June 1995. Interpretation facilities will be available for one meeting in the morning and one meeting in the afternoon throughout the session.

3. The Standing Committee may wish to hold a plenary meeting on the morning of Monday, 12 June, in order to deal with agenda items 1 and 2 and to hear an opening statement by the Officer-in-Charge of UNCTAD or his representative, and any general statements to be delivered on the substantive items of the agenda. The Standing Committee would then proceed with the consideration of the substantive items in an informal setting. The closing plenary on the afternoon of Friday, 16 June would take action on the outcome of the informal deliberations on the substantive items, and adopt the draft report of the Standing Committee.

Item 3: Analysis of the effects on the livelihood of the poor of elimination of trade barriers, increased competitiveness, trade flows, external shocks, diversification of exports, particularly of labour-intensive goods, and market access for such goods

For the consideration of this item, the Standing Committee has before it a report by the secretariat entitled "International trade and poverty alleviation" (TD/B/CN.2/13). The report is divided into two parts. The first part examines, including through quantitative estimates, the impact on poverty in the developing countries of the Uruguay Round Agreements, namely reduced trade barriers, trade flows, increased competitiveness, and external shocks. The methodological details of the modelling exercise are contained in the technical annex of the report. The second part of the report concerns the effects on the poor of labour-intensive goods for export, diversification of exports and market access of such goods. It is based on the findings of an UNCTAD-organized Workshop entitled Poverty Alleviation through International Trade that was held in Santiago, Chile, from 10 to 13 January 1995. The Workshop was hosted by the Government of Chile and supported by UNDP and the Governments of the Netherlands and Switzerland.